

PROVIDER ALERT

Corrected Error in Level of Care Manual:

SUD Medium Intensity Residential (ASAM 3.3) and High Intensity Residential (ASAM 3.5)

August 31, 2023

Target Audience: Substance Use Disorder Providers

An edit was made to this alert on September 7, 2023. Please see red text within this alert.

Optum Maryland and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) have corrected an error that was present in the *Substance Use Disorder: Medium Intensity Residential (ASAM 3.3) and High Intensity Residential (ASAM 3.5)* section of the [Level of Care Manual](#).

The “Authorization Reminders” text within this section has been updated to correctly reflect that:

- Initial authorizations can be submitted up to **5** days prior to the day of admission with supporting clinical information, ~~but no later than the day of admission.~~
- Concurrent authorizations with supporting clinical information may be requested up to **5** days prior to the last covered day ~~but no later than the first uncovered day.~~

***On September 7, 2023, a further edit was made to the Level of Care Manual to remove the text highlighted above.**

Prior to this correction, this section erroneously stated that authorizations could be submitted up to 14 days in advance, conflicting with other existing guidance.

This correction aligns the Level of Care Manual with the [Window of Authorization Submission](#) table, posted on Maryland.optum.com.

Effective September 1, 2023, the 5-day requirement detailed above will be effective for authorization requests. Authorizations submitted prior to September 1, under the expectation of the 14-day submission window will be honored, no provider action is necessary.

If you have questions about the information contained in this alert, please contact Optum Maryland customer service at 1-800-888-1965.

Thank you,

Optum Maryland Team